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POLITICAL PROGRAMME OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM NATIONAL FRONT FOR LIBERATION

Adopted at the Extraordinary Congress of the South Viet Nam N.F.L.

COMMUNIQUE OF THE EXTRAORDINARY CONGRESS OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM N.F.L.

An extraordinary congress of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, convened by its Central Committee, met in mid-August 1967 in a liberated area to discuss and adopt the Political Programme of the Front.

The Congress was attended by all the members of the Central Committee of the Front, representatives of political parties, mass organizations, nationalities, religions, the Command of the South Viet Nam Liberation Armed Forces, committees under the Central Committee of the Front, and committees of all levels of the Front from the northernmost province of Quang Tri to Point Camau in the south, from the mountain areas to the plains.

Also present were many personalities, intellectuals and representatives of the people in Saigon and other cities, many heroes and heroines of the South Viet Nam Liberation Armed Forces, many "valiant fighters" destroying the enemy forces and many emulation fighters.

The Congress was the most splendid image of the great solidarity of the entire people in the struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation. It symbolizes the growth by leaps and bounds of the armed forces and people in South Viet Nam in the past seven years since the birth of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, particularly after the victorious fight against the U.S. aggressors in the Winter and Spring of the last two years.

After the opening speech by Dr. Phung Van Cung, Vice-President of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, Lawyer Nguyen Huu Tho, President of the Presidium of the Front Central Committee, read a report in which he reviewed the extremely important successes recorded by the South Viet Nam Liberation armed forces and people since the founding of the Front with its 10-point programme aimed at uniting the entire people to resist the U.S. aggressors and their henchmen and save the country.

President Nguyen Huu Tho analysed the present situation, laid down new tasks for the South Vietnamese armed forces and people, and pointed out the favourable conditions for broadening the great solidarity of the entire people with a view to pushing forward the resistance to U.S. aggression, for national salvation till complete victory.

He proposed to the Congress to discuss and adopt the Political Programme drafted by the Front's Central Committee.

Huynh Tan Phat, Vice-President of the Presidium and Secretary General of the Central Committee of the Front, submitted the draft Political Programme to the Congress.

The Congress warmly discussed the report by President Nguyen Huu Tho and the draft Political Programme of the Front. It also heard addresses by representatives of various localities, political parties, mass organizations, nationalities, religions, the Liberation Armed Forces and many personalities and intellectuals.

The Congress unanimously held that:

1. SINCE the U.S. imperialists started their aggression against

(Continued page 2)

■ The Arch Enemy of Our People Is U.S. Imperialism and the Puppet Administration

■ The N.F.L. Fights For:

- ⊙ The Establishment of an Independent, Democratic, Neutral, Peaceful and Prosperous South Viet Nam and the Eventual Reunification of the Country,
- ⊙ The Formation of a Broad National Union Government,
- ⊙ The Election of a Representative National Assembly,
- ⊙ The Institution of Fundamental Democratic Freedoms Guaranteeing Legitimate Interests to All Social Strata of the People,
- ⊙ A Foreign Policy of Peace and Neutrality.

■ To Defeat the U.S. Aggressors and Overthrow the Puppet Administration, the South Viet Nam N.F.L., Pursuing Its Policy of Broad National Union, Calls for the Unity of the Entire People to Fight More Resolutely than Ever Until Victory.

(Full text of the Political Programme on page 4)

AT 7 p.m. on September 1, 1967 in Hanoi, the Permanent Representation of the South Viet Nam N.F.L. in the D.R.V.N. held a press conference (See page 8) *to make public the essential documents regarding the Extraordinary Congress of the South Viet Nam N.F.L. Full texts of these documents are printed in this issue.*

COMMUNIQUE OF THE EXTRAORDINARY CONGRESS OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM N.F.L.

(*Continued from page 1*)

South Viet Nam, the heroic South Vietnamese people have fought with matchless heroism and, overcoming innumerable hardships and difficulties, have successively defeated all the extremely cruel and perfidious schemes and manœuvres of the enemy and won tremendous successes.

Immediately after the restoration of peace, the U.S. imperialists, wrecking the 1954 Geneva Agreements, set up an utterly brutal puppet administration in an attempt to stamp out the patriotic movement of the South Vietnamese people and impose on them a neo-colonialist rule. The South Vietnamese people, however, stood up in the movement of "simultaneous uprisings", smashed the enemy's grip in many hamlets and villages and liberated many large rural areas in the plains and mountain regions, foiling the enemy's dark design.

Not reconciled to their failure, the U.S. imperialists waged an undeclared "special war" in an attempt to conquer South Viet Nam. Our people intensified their struggle both on the political and military fields and inflicted repeated and heavy defeats on the enemy. Our people's forces grew up by leaps and bounds, the liberated zone widened continually. The puppet army had an important part wiped out and faced the danger of total disintegration. The puppet administration was paralysed, the "strategic hamlet" system was destroyed by big chunks, and the remaining part of the enemy's rear was in a state of utter confusion. The U.S. imperialists "special war" strategy failed woefully.

In face of the danger of total collapse, the U.S. imperialists as from 1965, massively introduced U.S. expeditionary troops and satellite troops for a direct aggression against South Viet Nam and at the same time unleashed an air and naval war of destruction against the northern part of our country. By so doing, the U.S. imperialists hoped to force our people into submission. However, the South Vietnamese people and their armed forces have fought very heroically and won glorious victories. They have successively defeated two large-scale dry season counter-offensives of the enemy, driving over one million U.S., puppet and satellite troops into a more and more serious quagmire and impasse.

In North Viet Nam, our compatriots and the people's armed forces are valiantly defeating the U.S. imperialists' war of destruction, firmly maintaining and developing production; at the same time they are making all-out efforts to support and assist the liberation of the South, thus fulfilling the task of the great rear toward the great front.

The South Vietnamese people, through a long and arduous struggle, have developed to a high degree their people's war, built up a powerful political and armed force, and are now in a victorious offensive position, operating with initiative. Never before have our people won so great and so comprehensive victories, nor enjoyed so many favourable conditions to advance toward completely defeating the U.S. aggressors and their henchmen.

While fighting for their sacred national rights, the South Vietnamese people have actively carried out their internationalist duties, so as to contribute to the world people's struggle for peace, independence democracy and social progress against the bellicose and aggressive imperialists headed by the U.S. imperialists.

The above-mentioned victories of the South Viet Nam armed forces and people are inseparable from the correct line and policies laid down in the 10-point Programme of the South Viet Nam N.F.L., which has never ceased to hold high the banner of national independence, democracy and peace, the banner of great union of the entire people to oppose U.S. aggression and save the country. That is why the prestige of the Front has grown steadily, both at home and abroad. The Front has really become the sole genuine representative of the South Vietnamese people.

On this occasion, the Extraordinary Congress of the **South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation**:

— Warmly congratulates and cites for merits our **three kinds of armed forces** which have been fighting with splendid heroism and resourcefulness, are growing up quickly and achieving resounding exploits, thereby proving themselves worthy of the confidence of the entire people;

— Warmly praises the spirit of persistent and indomitable struggle of our **compatriots in all regions**, from the mountains to the plains and urban centres; warmly commends our peasants, workers and other labouring people, our youth, women, pupils, students, intellectuals, manufacturers and traders, the people of all nationalities and religions, and Chinese residents, for having unitedly, resolutely and perseveringly stepped up their political and armed struggle against the U.S. imperialists and their henchmen, foiled all the enemy's schemes in all fields, and won extremely important victories worthy of the confidence of their compatriots in the whole country and their friends in the five continents;

— Warmly congratulates and commends the achievements **of the cadres and personnel of all branches and at all levels who have worked with courage and** self-denial to fulfil all their tasks, thus making an important contribution to the great victories of the entire people.

With enthusiasm, the Congress expresses its admiration for the 17 million **kith-and-kin** and the people's **armed forces** in *North Viet Nam* who have recorded outstanding achievements in production and fighting, have gloriously defeated and are gloriously defeating the war of destruction waged by the U.S. imperialists. The Congress expresses its boundless gratitude to the 17 million compatriots in the North for their wholehearted assistance to the resistance of 14 million people and Liberation Armed Forces of South Viet Nam against U.S. aggression, for national salvation.

The Congress sends its best regards to and warmly welcomes *overseas Vietnamese* who have always turned their thoughts toward the Fatherland and have made active contributions to the revolutionary cause of liberating South Viet Nam.

On behalf of the 14 million people in South Viet Nam, the Congress conveys its sincere thanks to the *people of neighbouring Cambodia and Laos, the people of the socialist countries, the nationalist countries and many other countries in the world including the progressive people in the United States*, for their sympathy with and valuable support and assistance to the just war of resistance of the South Vietnamese people.

2) At present, in spite of their heavy defeats both on the military and political fields, the stubborn U.S. imperialists have not yet given up their sinister aggressive design. On the one hand, they are pushing up the war in South Viet Nam, and escalating their war of destruction against the North, and on the other, are unceasingly quibbling about "peaceful negotiation" and are staging "presidential and parliamentary elections" in South Viet Nam in an attempt to deceive public opinion and cover up their scheme of war intensification.

Their crimes against the South Vietnamese people of all strata are piling up higher than mountains. Never before have the contradictions between our people and the U.S. imperialists been so deep and so acute as today. The U.S. imperialists and their henchmen — the clique of traitors — are the sworn enemies of our people.

The people of South Viet Nam irrespective of social strata, even including members of the puppet army and administration, have seen through the true colours of the U.S. imperialists and their henchmen, hate them and want to contribute to the struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation.

On the basis of the above assessments, the Extraordinary Congress of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation unanimously adopts the Political Programme drafted by the Central Committee of the Front, with a view to further broadening the bloc of great national union and mobilizing still more vigorously the entire people and armed forces to rush forward to win complete victory in order to *build an independent, democratic, peaceful, neutral and prosperous South Viet Nam, and proceed toward the reunification of the Fatherland.*

The Congress puts its complete confidence in the Central Committee of the Front and entrusts it with promulgating, on the basis of the spirit and contents of the Political Programme, concrete policies relating to the rights and duties of the people of all strata, nationalities, religions, etc...

THE Extraordinary Congress of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation calls on:

— All the Liberation Armed Forces to give full play to revolutionary heroism, firmly maintain and continually develop their initiative position, still more vigorously step up their struggle, still harder and launch bigger attacks on all battlefields, attack the enemy without let up and wipe out, decimate and disintegrate as many U.S., puppet and satellite troops as possible, vigorously develop guerilla warfare on all fronts, harass the logistical bases, storages, airbases, ports, headquarters, land and water communication lines of the enemy, defeat their raiding operations and "pacification" programmes aimed at concentrating the people and setting up "strategic hamlets" to defend and broaden the liberated areas, protect the lives and property of the people. Let the Liberation Armed Forces step up the building of all the three kinds of armed forces to meet in time the great needs and tasks in the present stage.

Compatriots in the liberated areas, step up both your political and armed struggle to counter the enemy's "pacification" attempts, raids, concentration of people and setting up of "strategic hamlets" in order to protect your lives and defend the rights you have won, to preserve your right to be master of the liberated areas, constantly heighten your vigilance against the enemy's espionage and psychological war, boost and protect production, improve your livelihood, develop health work, culture and education, eagerly contribute material resources and manpower to the resistance, consolidate and build up the liberated areas in all fields,

— **Compatriots in the "contested" rural areas and areas still under enemy control, resist with determination** the enemy's raids for "pacification", plunder and exploitation, pressganging and concentration of the people, rise up to break the enemy's grip, destroy the "strategic hamlets" and liberate your villages.

— **Compatriots in the cities and towns**, unite as broadly as possible, resolutely step up your struggle for your urgent demands concerning livelihood, democratic liberties and national rights, oppose pressganging and forcible labour conscription, defeat the "election" farces and all other trickeries of the U.S. imperialists and their hirelings, break step by step the enemy's grip, endeavour to build up your own forces and co-ordinate actions with the compatriots in the countryside and the Liberation Armed Forces to defeat the U.S. imperialists' war of aggression, overthrow the lackey puppet administration, and set up a broad national union, democratic administration truly representative of the will and aspirations of the entire people.

— The Congress calls on the compatriots of all nationalities and religions to unite still more closely to smash all divisive manœuvres of the U.S. and its puppets against the nationalities and religions in order, together with the rest of the people, to oppose the U.S. imperialists and their henchmen, to save the country and your families and safeguard your religions.

— The Congress calls on all patriotic Vietnamese at home and abroad to put aside all differences in political opinion and unite their actions to resist the U.S. imperialist aggression and their flunkeys the traitors, and struggle to wrest back independence and sovereignty for the nation, democracy, liberty, peace and happiness for the people.

— The Congress calls on all officers and soldiers of the puppet army and all members of the puppet administration to see through the aggressive nature of the U.S. imperialists and the traitorous features of their henchmen, to choose in time the right path to follow, and together with the people to save the country and themselves.

On behalf of the 14 million people in South Viet Nam the Congress pledges to the Viet Nam Fatherland Front and the 17 million blood-sealed compatriots in the North to emulate them in resisting U.S. aggression and saving the country, overcoming all hardships and difficulties, and gloriously fulfilling the task of liberating the South, defending the North and proceeding toward the reunification of the land.

The Congress firmly believes that all peace and justice loving peoples in the world, including the progressive people in the United States, who have constantly sided with the South Vietnamese people and the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, will support and assist more and more actively the struggle of the South Vietnamese people against U.S. aggression, for national salvation, and thoroughly approve and support the Political Programme of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation.

The Vietnamese people will certainly be victorious!

The U.S. aggressors and their lackeys will certainly be defeated!

The Political Programme of the South Viet Nam N.F.L. is sure to materialize!

Under the glorious banner of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, let our compatriots and fighters in South Viet Nam march forward heroically!

South Viet Nam, August 20, 1967

Extraordinary Congress of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation

L.A.F. fighters

The Banner of Broad National Union, of Determination to Fight and Defeat the Aggressors

(Editorial of NHAN DAN paper, September 2, 1967 issue)

THE South Viet Nam N.F.L. has just held an extraordinary congress and worked out a political programme at broadening the unity of the entire people for the aimed national salvation struggle, furthering the successes so far recorded and mobilizing all the forces available with a view to complete victory over the American invaders.

The said programme constitutes a development of that adopted by the Front in 1960, and reflects the great victories that our southern compatriots have scored in the sacred fight against U.S. aggression to defend the Fatherland.

Seven years ago, when the insurrectional movement surged up in many parts of South Viet Nam, the N.F.L. came into existence and issued, along with a manifesto, a ten-point programme which rallied all the patriotic and democratic forces into the struggle to overthrow the domination of the U.S. imperialists and their henchmen, to bring about independence, democracy, peace and neutrality in South Viet Nam, pending national reunification. Under the banner of the Front, the people and their Liberation armed forces have been waging a most heroic revolutionary fight, combining insurrection with armed struggle, political with military and economic struggles, and have thus dealt the enemy heavy, repeated blows, foiled his "special war" strategy, smashed his two dry-season strategic offensives, and driven an army over a million strong into a quagmire and an impasse. The brilliant successes on the military and political fronts won by our compatriots and their armed forces under the leadership of the N.F.L. assume a strategic significance of considerable importance. They form a steady basis for the ultimate victory of our people. They have been made possible by the deep patriotism, the valiant and pertinacious combativeness of the South Vietnamese people and the Liberation armed forces. They are due to the correct line of the N.F.L. and the clearsighted direction of its Central Committee.

Following up recent victories, the people and Liberation forces are now attacking the enemy everywhere, in all theatres of operations. In comparison with seven years before, many changes have occurred in the over-all situation, the striking feature of which is the fact that the South Viet Nam N.F.L.—the sole authentic representative of the South Vietnamese people — has liberated four-fifths of the territory with two-thirds of the population, and become the symbol of the victorious struggle against U.S. aggression, the banner that unites and conducts the people in this struggle. Though very barbarous and cruel, bellicose and obdurate, the American imperialists have experienced heavy failures, and the more they wriggled the more serious their deadlock.

The myth of the superiority of U.S. infantry, air force and marines has been gradually exploded by the great struggle of our people. The U.S. imperialists, who have perpetrated countless towering crimes, are the sworn enemy of our entire people. They themselves have unveiled their dirty face as barbarous aggressors. And it is for the safeguard of the existence of our fellow-countrymen, for the liberation of the South of our fatherland, that the N.F.L. has made public its political programme to rally all the patriotic and democratic forces in South Viet Nam with a view to fighting and completely defeating the U.S. aggressors.

The political programme adopted by the Front at an extraordinary congress, has made an apt analysis of the new situation, put forward the line and policies to meet the present and future requirements of the revolution. It has clearly indicated that the most dangerous enemy of the South Vietnamese people now is the *American aggressors and the Saigon puppet, traitorous administration*. To counter U.S. aggression for national salvation is the sacred duty of our whole people.

The immediate task and the objective of the struggle of our compatriots, the programme points out, is "*to unite the entire people, resolutely defeat the U.S. imperialists' war of aggression, overthrow the lackey puppet administration, establish a broad national democratic, peaceful, neutral and prosperous South Viet Nam and proceed toward the peaceful reunification of the Fatherland.*"

Uniting all the patriotic and democratic forces constitutes the primary task of our compatriots. As is stressed in the programme, the guarantee of our victory over the U.S. invaders and of our successful fulfilment of the national salvation task lies in the broad unity of the people. The N.F.L. continues to stand for the union of all strata, all classes faithful to the interests of the people, all nationalities, all religions, all political parties and mass organizations, all patriotic personalities, all patriotic and democratic forces and individuals whatever their past and political tendencies, so as to resist the U.S. aggressors and the native traitors. The N.F.L. advocates joint action with the forces still standing outside it who are eager to fight against the common enemy.

Enlarging in the present juncture its previous ten-point programme, the Front, in its political programme, advances fourteen concrete points or fourteen major policies dealing with political, military, economic, agrarian, cultural and social affairs, with the nationalities, religions, interests of all sections of the population, revolutionary armed forces, overseas Vietnamese, as well as officers and soldiers in the puppet army, officials in the Saigon administration, foreign residents, and external affairs. The political programme of the Front is the condensed expression of the will and determination of our fourteen million southern compatriots to completely defeat the American invaders and to build up an independent, democratic, peaceful, neutral and prosperous South Viet Nam, heading towards national reunification.

The fourteen far-reaching policies of the N.F.L. thoroughly embody the historical tasks of the national democratic revolution that our countrymen have been struggling over the past decade to bring to success. Those policies fully and appropriately vouch for the interests of all popular strata, all religions, all overseas Vietnamese and foreign residents, for national independence and sovereignty.

Viet Nam is one country, the Vietnamese people are one nation. Reunification of the fatherland; the N.F.L.'s political programme points out, is the sacred aspiration of all our people. Viet Nam will certainly achieve reunification, which will be realized step by step by peaceful means.

The foreign policy of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation is a resolute and thorough one, it is aimed at safeguarding South Viet Nam's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity; establishment of diplomatic relations with all countries regardless of their political and social system, on the basis of the respect of each other's national rights, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality, mutual interests and peaceful co-existence; non-adherence to any military bloc, acceptance of economic and technical assistance from all countries without political conditions attached, strengthening of good neighbourhood relations with Cambodia and Laos, active support to the national liberation movements of the Asian, African and Latin American peoples, and active contribution to the struggle of the world's peoples for national independence, democracy, peace and social progress.

The N.F.L's political programme comes to our people and army at a time when they are achieving splendid successes in the U.S. war of destruction, and jubilantly emulating to honour our National Day with their best achievements. Our seventeen million compatriots in the North are very elated at the glorious victories of their kith and kin in the South. It is our assessment that, made public in the present circumstances, this programme takes on an extremely important significance, and greatly inspires the patriotic struggle of our people all over the country. It acts as a banner to rally all the patriotic and democratic forces of all the fourteen million people of South Viet Nam into the fight to completely defeat the U.S. aggressors.

This programme is a vivid expression of the resolve to fight and to win of the South Vietnamese people, of their will to reunify the Fatherland. The programme is also a vivid expression of the magnificent creativeness of the N.F.L. which has summed up the intelligence and experiences on the revolutionary struggle of the population in both parts of the country, and aptly combined sound principles with flexible tactics in order to elaborate adequate and timely policies. The heroism of our army and people, the skilful and clearsighted leadership are important conditions for the triumph of the revolution.

Proud of our kith and kin in the South, we people anp armed forces in the North, are firmly confident that the South Viet Nam N.F.L.'s political programme is powerful enough to help speed up their sacred resistance war to final victory. Shoulder to shoulder with them and the Liberation fighters, we will duly punish every new step of the U.S. war escalation, and will do our utmost to raise in every respect the potential of the big rear so that it may serve as a steady prop for the big front. We are resolved to keep the oath we have taken with our Southern compatriots, namely, to fight together with them until complete victory for the liberation of the South, the defence of the North and the reunification of the Fatherland.

POLITICAL PROGRAMME

OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM NATIONAL FRONT FOR LIBERATION

IN 1960, the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation came into being with its 10-point Programme aimed at uniting the entire people against the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys.

Since then, the Front has achieved *broad union* of the various sections of the people, the political parties, organizations, nationalities, religious communities, and patriotic personalities with a view to jointly fighting against U.S. aggression, for national salvation. It has successfully consolidated its base among the broad masses of the people ; at the same time, it has achieved joint action with many political and religious forces, and won over many manufacturers and traders, many officials and functionaries of the puppet administration, and many officers and soldiers of the puppet army.

The Front has constantly enjoyed wholehearted encouragement and assistance from *our compatriots in the North* and *abroad*. It has also enjoyed ever stronger approval and support from the peoples of neighbouring *Cambodia* and *Laos*, from the peoples of the *socialist*, *nationalist* and *other countries* in the world, *including progressive people* in the United States.

Under the leadership of the N.F.L., our people in the South have gone from victory to victory. The prestige of the Front has been unceasingly enhanced at home and abroad. The South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation has become *the sole genuine representative of the heroic South Vietnamese people*.

These great achievements have proved that the line and policy of the Front are correct, and that the strength of our people's unity and struggle is invincible.

At present, despite heavy defeats, the U.S. imperialists are still unwilling to give up their aggressive designs against Viet Nam. They are stepping up the war, trampling upon the South, and intensifying the bombing of the North of our country. The monstrous crimes of the U.S. imperialists, however, have only served to deepen our people's hatred and increase their indomitable will. The people of South Viet Nam, regardless of social standing, and even a number of persons in the puppet army and administration, have seen through the true features of the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys, hate them, and want to contribute to the struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation.

Never before in our nation's history has the mettle of our entire people united for the fight to wipe out the enemy and save the country been so strong as now. Our people are in a victorious, initiative and offensive position. The U.S. imperialists and their lackeys have been increasingly driven into passivity and embarrassment ; they are in an impasse and are sustaining defeats.

At this juncture, in a spirit of developing the former Programme, the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation has worked out this Political Programme with a view to further broadening the bloc of great national union, encouraging and stimulating the entire people to rush forward, resolutely to fight and defeat the U.S. aggressors, and to build an independent, democratic, peaceful, neutral and prosperous South Viet Nam.

I

UNITE THE ENTIRE PEOPLE, FIGHT THE U.S. AGGRESSORS, SAVE THE COUNTRY

1. During four thousand years of their history, the Vietnamese people have united and fought against foreign invasion to preserve their independence and freedom.

Ever since our country was conquered by the French colonialists, our people have fought unremittingly for their liberation. In 1945, our people from North to South rose up, successfully carried out the August Revolution, seized political power from the Japanese militarists and their lackeys, and founded the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

When the French colonialists came back to invade our country once again, our entire people heroically fought for nearly nine years, brought our sacred resistance to the great victory of Dien Bien Phu, smashing the aggressive schemes of the French colonialists and the interventionist policy of the U.S. imperialists.

The independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Viet Nam were formally recognized by the 1954 Geneva Conference. Since then, our compatriots in South Viet Nam together with the people all over the country, should have been living in peace and building a free and happy life. However, the U.S. imperialists have sabotaged the Geneva Agreements, ousted the French colonialists, set up in South Viet Nam an extremely cruel puppet regime, and tried to turn the southern part of Viet Nam into a neo-colony and a military base in an attempt to prolong the partition of our country, conquer the whole of Viet Nam and impose their domination throughout Indo-China and South East Asia.

The U.S. imperialists have shrunk from no cruel method to carry out their dark designs. Defeated in their "special war" they have switched on to a "local war", using over half a million U.S. and satellite troops, along with more than half a million puppet soldiers, for aggression against South Viet Nam ; at the same time, they have undertaken a war of destruction against the northern part of our country. They have also stepped up their "special war" in scope and carried out continual provocations aimed at wrecking the independence and neutrality of Cambodia.

The U.S. imperialists are daily causing untold sufferings and mourning to our compatriots throughout the country ! They have resorted to all kinds of modern war means and weapons, including strategic aircraft, napalm bombs, toxic chemicals and poison gas, to massacre our fellow-countrymen. They have launched repeated operations, "sweeping" again and again many areas, carrying out the "kill all, burn all, destroy all" policy to raze villages and hamlets" to the ground. They have herded the population, grabbed land, and set up 'no man's land' and fascist-type concentration camps dubbed "strategic hamlets" "prosperity zones","resettlement areas", etc. In the North, they have wantonly bombed and strafed streets, villages, industrial centres, heavily populated areas, they have even struck at dikes, dams, schools, hospitals, churches, pagodas.

Obviously the U.S. imperialists are the most ruthless aggressors in history, the saboteurs of the 1954 Geneva Agreements the wreckers of the peace and security of the peoples of Indo-China, South East Asia and the world, the enemy number one of our people and of mankind.

Over the past few years, the U.S. imperialists have continually escalated the war, yet they have unceasingly clamoured about "peace negotiations" in an attempt to fool the American and world people.

The Saigon puppet administration has sold out South Viet Nam to the U.S. imperialists. It has oppressed and exploited our Southern compatriots in an extremely ruthless way. It has forced South Viet Nam youths into the army to serve the U.S. in the massacre of our fellow-countrymen. In a demagogic bid, it has also staged the farce of "working out a constitution" and "holding elections" It is only a clique of traitors, an *instrument for the U.S. imperialists* to enslave the South Vietnamese people, prolong the partition of our country and further the U.S. war of aggression.

2. The U.S. aggressors and their lackeys think they can intimidate our people by the use of force and deceive them by means of tricks. But they are grossly mistaken. *Our people definitely will never submit to force, never let themselves be deceived !*

Bringing into play our nation's tradition of undauntedness, our 31 million compatriots from the South to the North have resolutely stood up, united as one man, to fight the U.S. aggressors and save the country.

In the frontline of the Fatherland, our Southern fellow-countrymen have over the past 13 years shown marvellous heroism. Irrespective of age, sex, political tendencies, religious beliefs, and no matter whether they live in the plains or in mountain areas, our people of all strata, all nationalities have resolutely fought shoulder to shoulder to liberate the South, defend the North, and proceed toward the reunification of the Fatherland.

Since 1959-1960, our compatriots in the South Viet Nam countryside have carried out "simultaneous uprisings", destroyed a series of concentration camps and "prosperity zones" of the U.S. imperialists and the puppet administration and liberated vast rural areas.

Our armed forces and people then rushed forward, destroyed thousands of "strategic hamlets", liberated millions of people, and defeated the U.S. "special war".

Since 1965, although the U.S. aggressors have brought in hundreds of thousands of U.S. expeditionary troops for direct aggression against South Viet Nam, our armed forces and people have repeatedly won big victories, smashed two successive U.S. dry-season strategic counter-offensives, defeated over one million enemy troops (U.S., puppet and satellite). *The liberated areas have continuously expanded and now already make up four-fifths of the South Viet Nam territory with two-thirds of its population. In these liberated areas, a national and democratic power is taking shape and a new life is blossoming. In addition to big military victories, we have also recorded important successes in the political, economic, cultural and diplomatic fields.*

In the beloved Northern part of the Fatherland, our 17 million compatriots are heroically defeating the U.S. imperialists' war of destruction, maintaining and boosting production, wholeheartedly encouraging and helping the cause of liberating the South, thus fulfilling the obligations of the great rear toward the great front.

In the world, the peoples of the socialist, nationalist and other countries, including the progressive people in the United States, are sternly condemning the U.S. imperialists' war of aggression, and are giving their approval support and assistance to our people's struggle against U.S. aggression and for national salvation.

Facts have clearly shown that the more the U.S. imperialists obduratedly intensify and expand their war of aggression against our country, the more they sustain bitter defeats and are isolated, on the other hand, our people win greater victories and get more friends.

3. The most dangerous enemies of our people at present are *the U.S. imperialist aggressors and their lackeys — the traitorous puppet administration.*

The present tasks and objectives of the South Vietnamese people in the struggle for national salvation are : *to unite the entire people, resolutely defeat the U.S. imperialists' war of aggression, overthrow their lackey puppet administration, establish a broad national democratic coalition administration, build an independent, democratic, peaceful, neutral and prosperous South Viet Nam, and proceed toward the peaceful reunification of the Fatherland.*

The force that guarantees the fulfilment of the above task of fighting against U.S. aggression to save the country is our *great national union*. The South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation constantly stands for uniting *all social strata and classes, all nationalities, all political parties, all organisations, all religious communities*, all patriotic personalities, all individuals and all patriotic and progressive forces irrespective of political tendencies, in order to struggle together against the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys, wrest back our sacred national rights, and build up the country.

The South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation is ready to invite and welcome all patriotic forces and individuals who oppose the U.S. aggressors to join its ranks, and to shoulder together the common duties. It proposes that any force which, for one reason or another, does not adhere to its ranks, take joint actions against the common enemy, the U.S. aggressors and their lackeys.

The South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation pledges itself to strive, shoulder to shoulder with the Viet Nam Fatherland Front to fulfil gloriously the common task of *fighting against U.S. aggression to liberate the South, defend the North and proceed toward the peaceful reunification of the Fatherland.*

While fighting for their sacred national rights, the people of South Viet Nam actively accomplish their internationalist duty. Their resistance war against U.S. aggression is an integral part of the revolutionary struggle of the people all over the world.

The South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation undertakes to stand within the united bloc of the Indo-Chinese peoples to fight against the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys, to defend the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Viet Nam, Cambodia and Laos.

The South Viet Nam National Front For Liberation pledges itself to take an active part in the common struggle of the world's peoples against the bellicose and aggressive imperialists headed by U.S. imperialism, for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress.

4. The cruel U.S. aggressors are trampling upon our homeland. We, people of South Viet Nam, *must stand up to make revolution and wage a people's war* with a view to annihilating them, driving them out of our borders, and wresting back national independence and sovereignty.

Having experienced over 20 years of war, our Southern compatriots eagerly want to live in peace and rebuild our war-devastated country. But the U.S. imperialists have cut across this legitimate aspiration. That is why our people have to fight against them to win peace in independence. Nothing is more precious than independence and freedom. *Only when real independence is secured can we have genuine peace !*

The enemy of our nation is ruthless and obdurate. But our entire people are determined to fight and to defeat the U.S. aggressors and their lackeys. So long as the U.S. imperialists do not end their war of aggression, withdraw all U.S. and satellite troops from our country, and let the South Vietnamese people settle themselves the internal affairs of South Viet Nam without foreign interference, our people will resolutely fight on until total victory. The South Vietnamese people's liberation war is a long and hard one, but it is sure to end in victory.

Our people rely mainly on their own forces, at the same time, they strive to win the sympathy, support and assistance of the world's peoples.

To defeat the U.S. aggressors and their lackeys, our people do not spare any sacrifice, they enthusiastically contribute manpower, material resources and their talent to the national liberation war in the spirit of doing everything for the front, everything for victory.

The South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation undertakes to develop the liberation armed forces camprising the main-force units, the regional troops and the militia and guerilla units, with the aim of promoting people's war, combining guerilla with regular warfare, wiping out as many enemy live forces as possible, crushing the enemy's will for aggression, and winning final victory

The Front undertakes to *build and develop the political forces of the masses*, promote the movement of political struggle, combine armed struggle with political struggle and agitation among enemy troops, thus forming three converging prongs to defeat the enemy.

The South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation undertakes to *encourage all strata of the population in the towns and rural areas still under enemy control* to unite and struggle in every possible form to break the grip of the U.S. aggressors and their lackeys, destroy the "phuong" (corporations) and "strategic hamlets", demand democratic freedoms, national sovereignty, and a better life, oppose the pressganging of troops and forcible labour draft, struggle against enslaving and depraved culture, and march forward, together with the entire people, to overthrow the enemy's rule and seize political power.

At the same time, the Front undertakes *to encourage all strata of people in the liberated areas* to unite closely, to build the people's self-management system, to set up step by step a local national democratic administration, to build base areas ; to strive to produce and fight against U.S. aggression and for national salvation ; to continue solving the agrarian problem satisfactorily ; to build the new economy and culture of the liberated areas, to foster the people's forces with a view to ensuring supplies for the frontline and carrying the resistance war through to complete victory.

II

BUILD AN INDEPENDENT, DEMOCRATIC, PEACEFUL, NEUTRAL AND PROSPEROUS SOUTH VIET NAM

THE people of South Viet Nam are determined to defeat the U.S. aggressors and their lackeys, and to devote heart and soul to building a political system that guarantees the independence and sovereignty of the nation and the freedom and happiness of the people, to heal the wounds of war, to liquidate the social evils left over by the U.S.-puppet regime, to restore normal life and build an independent, democratic, peaceful, neutral and prosperous South Viet Nam. To achieve these objectives, the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation lays down the followingconcrete policies:

1. TO SET UP A BROAD AND PROGRESSIVE DEMOCRATIC REGIME

TO abolish the disguised colonial regime established by the U.S. imperialists in South Viet Nam, to overthrow the puppet administration, hireling of the United States, not to recognize the puppet "national assembly" rigged up by the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys ; to, abolish the "constitution" and all anti-national and anti-democratic laws enacted by the U.S. imperialists and the puppet administration.

— To hold free general elections to elect the National Assembly in a really democratic way in accordance with the principle of universal, equal, direct suffrage and secret ballot. This National Assembly will be the State body with the highest authority in South Viet Nam ; it will work out a democratic constitution which fully embodies the most fundamental and most eager aspirations of all social strata in South Viet Nam and guarantee the establishment of a broad, progressive, democratic State structure. To guarantee the immunity of the deputies to the National Assembly.

— To set up a national union democratic government including the most representative persons among the various social strata, nationalities, religious communities, patriotic and democratic parties, patriotic personalities, and forces which have contributed to the cause of national liberation.

— To proclaim and enforce broad democratic freedoms : freedom of speech, freedom of the press and publication, freedom of assembly, trade-union freedom, freedom of association, freedom to form political parties, freedom of creed, freedom of demonstration.

— To guarantee to all citizens inviolability of the human person, freedom of residence and lodging, secrecy of correspondence, freedom of movement, right to work and rest, and right to study.

— To enforce equality between man and woman and equality among the various nationalities.

— To set free all persons detained by the U.S. imperialists and the puppet administration on account of their patriotic activities.

— To dissolve the concentration camps set up in all form by the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys.

— To give all those people who have to seek asylum abroad because of the U.S.-puppet regime, the right to return home to serve the country.

— To severely punish the die-hard cruel agents of the U.S. imperialists.

2. TO BUILD AN INDEPENDENT AND SELF-SUPPORTING ECONOMY ; TO IMPROVE THE PEOPLE'S LIVING CONDITIONS

TO abolish the policy of economic enslavement and monopoly of the U.S. imperialists.

— To confiscate the property of the U.S. imperialists and their die-hard cruel agents and turn it into State property.

— To build an independent and self-supporting economy. To rapidly heal the wounds of war, to restore and develop the economy so as to make the people rich and the country powerful.

— To protect the right to ownership of the means of production and other property of the citizens under the laws of the State.

— To restore and develop agricultural production. To improve cultivation, animal husbandry, fish-rearing and forestry. The State will encourage the peasants to unite and help one another boost production ; grant them loans at low interests for the purchase of buffaloes, oxen, farm implements, agricultural machines, seeds, fertilizers, etc. ; help them develop irrigation works and apply advanced agricultural techniques.

— To guarantee outlets for agricultural products.

— To restore and develop industry, small industries and handicrafts.

— To guarantee to the workers and employees the right to take part in the management of enterprises.

The State will encourage the capitalists in industry and trade to help develop industry, small industries and handicrafts.

— To enforce freedom of enterprises to the benefit of national construction and the people's welfare ; to apply a customs policy designed to promote and protect home-production.

— To restore and develop communications and transport.

— To encourage and step up economic exchanges between towns and country, between the plains and the mountain areas.

— To give due consideration to the interests of small traders and small manufacturers.

— To set up a State bank.

— To build an independent currency.

— To apply a fair and rational tax policy.

The State will adopt a policy of granting loans at low interests to encourage production, and will prohibit usury.

— To develop economic relations with the North ; the two zones will help each other so that Viet Nam's economy may prosper rapidly.

— In accordance with the Front's policy of neutrality and on the principle of equality, mutual benefit and respect for the independence and sovereignty of the Vietnamese nation, foreign trade will be expanded, and economic and technical assistance from foreign countries will be accepted, regardless of political and social systems.

3. TO ENACT THE LAND POLICY, TO CARRY OUT THE SLOGAN : LAND TO THE TILLER

TO confiscate the lands of the U.S. imperialists and the die-hard cruel landlords, their lackeys, to allot those lands to lackland or land-poor peasants.

— To confirm and protect the ownership of the lands allotted by the revolution to peasants.

— The State will negotiate the purchase of land from landlords who possess land upward of a certain amount varying with the situation in each locality; it will allot these lands to lackland or land-poor peasants. The recipients will receive the lands free of charges, and will not be bound by any condition whatsoever. In areas where the required conditions for land reform do not yet obtain, land-rent reduction will be carried out.

— To entrust the lands belonging to absentee landlords to peasants for cultivation and enjoyment of the produce. Adequate steps will be taken on this subject at a later stage in consideration of the political attitude of each landlord.

— To allow landlords to offer land to the Liberation Peasants' Association or to the State. The Liberation Peasants' Association and the State will allot those lands to lackland or land-poor peasants.

— To encourage the owners of industrial crop or fruit tree plantations to keep production going.

— To respect the legitimate right to land ownership by the churches, pagodas and holy sees of religious sects.

— To carry out a fair and rational re-distribution of communal lands.

— To guarantee the legitimate right to ownership of reclaimed lands to those who reclaim them.

— To guarantee freedom to those compatriots who have been forced into "strategic hamlets" or concentration camps in any other form to return to their former villages.

— Those who have been compelled to "evacuate" or to "change abodes" and who wish to go on living there, will enjoy recognition of their ownership of the lands and other property resulting from the fruit of their labour, and will be helped to continue earning their living in the same place; those who wish to return to their native places will also receive help.

4. TO BUILD A NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC CULTURE AND EDUCATION, TO DEVELOP SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; TO PROMOTE PUBLIC HEALTH

TO fight against the American-type enslaving and depraved culture and education now adversely affecting our people's fine, long-standing cultural traditions.

— To build a national democratic culture and education; to develop science and technology in the service of national construction and defence.

— To educate the people in the Vietnamese nation's tradition of struggle against foreign invasion and its heroic history. To preserve and develop the fine culture and good customs and habits of our nation.

— To raise the people's cultural standard; to liquidate illiteracy, to promote complementary education; to open new general education schools, higher education establishments and vocational schools. To make all out effort to train and foster scientific workers, technicians and skilled workers.

— To use the Vietnamese language as teaching medium in higher education establishments. To reduce school fees for pupils and students;

— To exempt poor pupils and students from school fees, or grant them scholarships.

To reform the system of examinations.

— To give every help possible to the youth and children who have rendered services to the fight against U.S. aggression and for national salvation, the children born into the families who have rendered services to the revolution, and other outstanding youth so as to enable them to study and develop their capabilities.

— To enable every citizen freely to carry out scientific and technological researches, to indulge in literary and artistic creation, and to participate in other cultural activities. To encourage the intellectuals, writers, artists and scientists and to afford them the required conditions for research work, creation and invention in the service of the Fatherland and the people.

— To support those cultural workers, writers and artists who have been persecuted by the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys owing to their patriotic activities.

— To develop health service and the movement for hygiene and prophylaxis. To attend to the people's health. To control epidemics, to do away with dangerous diseases left by the U.S.-puppet regime.

— To develop the movement for physical culture and sports.

— To develop cultural relations with the North; the two zones will help each other to raise the people's educational level and foster talented people.

— To promote cultural relations with foreign countries on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

5. TO GUARANTEE THE INTERESTS OF FACTORY AND OFFICE WORKERS AND OTHER LABOURING PEOPLE AND SEE TO THEIR LIVELIHOOD

TO promulgate labour legislation, to put into practice the 8-hour working day; to provide for a regime of rest and recreation; to set up a rational system of wages and bonuses for increased productivity.

— To improve the living and working conditions of the workers, labourers and civil servants.

— To apply a policy of adequate remuneration for apprentices.

— To see to the employment of workers and poor urban people; actively to do away with unemployment.

— To put into practice a policy on social security in order to care for and assist workers, labourers and civil servants in case of disease, incapacitation, old age or retirement.

— To improve living conditions in working people's residential quarters.

— To settle disputes between employers and employees through negotiations between the two sides and mediation by the national democratic administration.

— To strictly prohibit the beating of workers and labourers; to strictly prohibit wage dockings, fines and unjustified sacking of workers.

6. TO BUILD UP SOUTH VIET NAM LIBERATION ARMED FORCES POWERFULLY WITH A VIEW TO LIBERATING THE PEOPLE AND DEFENDING THE FATHERLAND

THE South Viet Nam Liberation Armed Forces (comprising the main force units, the regional troops, and the militia and guerilla units) are children of the people; they are boundlessly loyal to the interests of the Fatherland and the people, and duty-bound to fight shoulder to shoulder with the entire people to liberate the South, defend the Fatherland and make an active contribution to the defence of peace in Asia and in the world.

— To pay due attention to the building of the Liberation Armed Forces. To strive to raise their quality and increase their fighting capacity with a view to stepping up people's war, defeating the U.S., satellite and puppet troops, and bringing the fight against U.S. aggression, for national salvation to total victory.

To strengthen the political work with a view to enhancing the patriotism and determination to fight and to win of the Liberation Armed Forces; to raise the sense of discipline; to continuously tighten the fish and water relations between the Army and the population.

— Officers and men of the Liberation Armed Forces enjoy the right to vote and to stand for election, and enjoy privileges on land and all other rights of the citizens.

7. TO SHOW GRATITUDE TO THE MARTYRS, TO ATTEND TO DISABLED ARMYMEN, TO REWARD THE ARMYMEN AND CIVILIANS DISTINGUISHED IN THE FIGHT AGAINST U.S. AGGRESSION AND FOR NATIONAL SALVATION

THE entire people are grateful to, and constantly bear in mind the memory of the martyrs who belonged to the Liberation Armed Forces or to various services and revolutionary organizations, and those who laid down their lives in political struggles. Their families are attended to and assisted by the State and the people.

— To give care and assistance to armymen and civilians disabled in the course of the armed and political struggle.

— To reward in a worthy manner all armymen and civilians distinguished in the struggle against U.S. aggression and for national salvation.

Families who have rendered services to the revolution are remembered and helped in their living.

8. TO ORGANIZE SOCIAL RELIEF

TO give relief to the compatriots victims of the war of aggression unleashed by the U.S. imperialists and the puppet regime.

— To attend to orphans, old folk and invalid people. To organize relief for the areas affected by natural calamities or bad crops.

— To give consideration also to disabled puppet soldiers and to needy and helpless families of puppet soldiers killed in action.

— To help those people driven to depravation by the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys to rebuild their life in order to serve the Fatherland and the people.

9. TO CARRY OUT EQUALITY BETWEEN MAN AND WOMAN; TO PROTECT MOTHERS AND CHILDREN

TO pay utmost attention to raising the political, cultural and vocational standard of women to fit their merits in the struggle against U.S. aggression and for national salvation. To develop the Vietnamese women's traditions of heroism, undauntedness, fidelity and skill to shoulder every responsibility.

— Women are equal to men in the political economic, cultural and social fields.

— Women who do the same job receive the same salary and allowances and enjoy all other rights as men.

— Women workers and civil servants enjoy two months' maternity leave with full pay before and after child birth.

— To apply a policy of actively helping, fostering and training women cadres.

— To promulgate progressive marriage and family regulations.

— To protect the rights of mothers and children. To develop the network of maternity homes, creches and infant classes.

— To stem all social scourges brought about by the U.S imperialists and their lackeys, which are harmful to women's health and dignity.

10. TO STRENGTHEN UNITY; TO PRACTICE EQUALITY AND MUTUAL ASSISTANCE AMONG NATIONALITIES.

TO abolish all systems and policies applied by the imperialists and their lackeys with a view to dividing, oppressing and exploiting the various nationalities. To oppose discrimination among and forcible assimilation of the nationalities.

— To develop the long-standing tradition of unity and mutual assistance among the various fraternal nationalities with a view to defending and building the country. All nationalities are equal in rights and obligations.

— To implement the agrarian policy with regard to minority peasants. To encourage and help them settle down in fixed residences, to improve their lands, to develop economy and culture, to raise their living standard so that they can catch up with the general standard of the people.

— The national minorities have the right to use their own spoken and written languages to develop their own culture and art; they have the right to maintain or change their customs and habits.

— To strive to train minority cadres so as to enable the minorities to quickly have conditions to manage local affairs by themselves.

— In the areas where the minorities live concentrated and gather the required conditions, autonomous zones will be established within independent and free Viet Nam.

11. TO RESPECT FREEDOM OF CREED, TO ACHIEVE UNITY AND EQUALITY AMONG THE DIFFERENT RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES.

TO fight against all manœuvres and tricks of the imperialists and their lackeys who use a number of persons under the cloak of religion to oppose our people's struggle against U.S. aggression and for national salvation, sow dissension between believers and non-believers and among different religious communities and harm the country, the people and the religion.

— To respect freedom of creed and worship. To preserve pagodas, churches, sanctuaries, temples.

— All religions are equal and are not subject to discrimination.

— To achieve unity among believers of various religions and between believers and the entire nation for the sake of the struggle against U.S. aggressors and their lackeys to defend and build the country.

12. TO WELCOME PUPPET OFFICERS AND SOLDIERS AND PUPPET OFFICIALS BACK TO THE JUST CAUSE; SHOW LENIENCY AND GIVE A HUMANE TREATMENT TO RALLIED ARMYMEN AND PRISONERS-OF-WAR.

TO oppose the U.S. imperialists' and the puppet administration's attempts to presagang mercenaries to serve the U.S. aggressors in their struggle against the country and their massacre of the people.

— To severely punish the die hard thugs acting as efficient agents of the U.S. imperialists.

— To afford conditions for puppet officers and soldiers and puppet officials to come back to the just cause and join the people's fight against U.S. aggression to save and build the country.

— Those individuals, groups or units of the puppet army and administration who have fought against U.S. aggression for national salvation will be rewarded and their position duly considered. Those who sympathize with and support the struggle against U.S. aggression for national salvation, or those who refuse to carry out orders of the U.S. and puppets to harm the people will have their merits recorded.

— Those individuals, groups or units who have broken away from the puppet army and voluntarily apply to join the liberation armed forces for fighting against the U.S. to save the country are welcomed and enjoy equal treatment.

Regarding those individuals or units who have broken away from the puppet army and administration and risen against the U.S. aggressors to save the country, the Front stands ready to join action with them in the fight against the U.S. aggressors, on a basis of equality, mutual respect and assistance so as together to protect the people and liberate the Fatherland.

— Those functionaries of the puppet administration who volunteer to serve the country and the people in the State machine after the liberation of South Viet Nam will enjoy equal treatment.

— Those in the puppet army and puppet administration at any level who have committed crimes against the people but are now sincerely repentant will be pardoned. Those who redeem their crimes by meritorious deeds will be rewarded accordingly. Captured officers and soldiers of the puppet army will enjoy humanitarian treatment and leniency.

— Those in the U.S. army and its satellite armies who cross over to the people's side will be given kind treatment and helped to return to their families when conditions permit.

— Captured U.S. and satellite troops will be treated as captured puppet troops.

13. TO PROTECT THE RIGHTS AND INTERESTS OF OVERSEAS VIETNAMESE

— To welcome the patriotism of overseas Vietnamese and highly value all their contributions to the resistance to U.S. aggression for national salvation of the people.

— To protect the rights and interests of overseas Vietnamese.

— To help those overseas Vietnamese who wish to return to the country to take part in national construction.

14. TO PROTECT THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS AND INTERESTS OF FOREIGN RESIDENTS IN SOUTH VIET NAM

— To welcome those foreign residents who have contributed to the Vietnamese people's resistance to U.S. aggression for national salvation.

— All foreign residents living in South Viet Nam must respect the independence and sovereignty of Viet Nam and obey the law of the national democratic administration.

— To protect the legitimate rights and interests of all foreign residents who have not cooperated with the U.S. imperialists and their henchmen in opposing the Vietnamese people, who have not harmed the independence and sovereignty of Viet Nam. To give adequate consideration to the rights and interests of those foreign residents who have directly or indirectly supported the Vietnamese people's resistance to U.S. aggression for national salvation.

— To resolutely oppose and abolish all policies of the U.S. imperialists and their henchmen aimed at dividing the Vietnamese people and Chinese residents in South Viet Nam, exploiting and repressing Chinese residents, and forcing them to adopt Vietnamese citizenship.

— To punish the die-hard agents and secret agents of the imperialists and the South Viet Nam puppet administration.

III

TO RESTORE NORMAL RELATIONS BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH VIET NAM; PROCEED TOWARD PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION OF THE FATHERLAND

VIET NAM is one, the Vietnamese people are one. No force can divide our Fatherland.

Reunification of the country is the sacred aspiration of our entire people. Viet Nam must be reunified.

The policy of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation is as follows:

1. The reunification of Viet Nam will be realized step by step and through peaceful means on the principle of negotiation between the two zones without either side using pressure against the other and without foreign interference.

2. Pending the reunification of the country, the people in both zones will make joint efforts to oppose foreign invasion and defend the Fatherland at the same time endeavour to expand economic and cultural exchanges. The people in both zones are free to exchange letters, to go from one zone to another and to choose their place of residence.

IV

TO APPLY A FOREIGN POLICY OF PEACE AND NEUTRALITY

THE South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation applies a foreign policy of peace and neutrality, a foreign policy which guarantees the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of the country and helps safeguard world peace. In more concrete terms, this policy consists in the following points:

1. To establish diplomatic relations with all countries regardless of their social and political system, on the principle of mutual respect for each other's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, without infringement upon each other's interests, without interference into each other's internal affairs, equality, mutual benefits and peaceful co-existence.

To abolish all unequal treaties which the puppet administration has signed with the United States or any other country.

To respect the economic and cultural interests of those countries which sympathize with, support or assist the Vietnamese people's struggle against U.S. aggression for national salvation.

To accept technical and economic assistance from any country without political conditions attached.

To join no military alliance; to accept no military personnel or military base of foreign countries on South Viet Nam territory.

2 — To strengthen the friendly relations with all countries which sympathize with, support or assist the Vietnamese people's struggle against U.S. aggression for national salvation.

To strengthen the relations of good neighbourhood with Cambodia and Laos. To unceasingly strengthen the solidarity and mutual assistance between the people of the Indo-Chinese countries, with a view to defending their respective independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity against the aggressive and war provocation policy of the U.S. imperialists and their henchmen.

3 — Actively support the national liberation movement of the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America against imperialism and old and new colonialism.

Actively support the struggle of the American people against the U.S. imperialists' war of aggression in Viet Nam.

Actively support the just struggle of Black people in the United States for their fundamental national rights.

Actively support the struggle for peace, democracy and social progress in all countries in the world.

4 — Actively struggle to contribute to the safeguarding of world peace, oppose the bellicose and aggressive imperialists headed by U.S. imperialism. Demand the dissolution of the aggressive military blocs and foreign military bases of imperialism.

Unceasingly consolidate and develop relations with international democratic organizations and the peoples of all countries including the American people.

Actively contribute to the consolidation and development of the world peoples' front in support of Viet Nam against the U.S. imperialist aggressors for national independence and peace.

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THE struggle against U.S. aggression for national salvation of our people is extremely hard but very glorious.

It concerns not only the destiny of our people at present and all our future generations but also the interests of the peoples in the world who are struggling for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress. In order to accomplish that glorious task, our people, already united, must unite still more closely and broadly!

The South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation warmly welcomes all political parties, mass organizations, patriotic and progressive personalities who broadly rally within and without the Front in order to pool their efforts to defeat the U.S. aggressors and their henchmen.

The struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation of our people is a just cause. Our people throughout the country are of one mind to fight and defeat the U.S. aggressors and their henchmen. The sympathy, support and assistance of the peoples of the socialist countries, the Asian, African and Latin American countries and peace and justice-loving people all over the world, including the progressive people in the United States, is becoming deeper and stronger day by day. We are winning and will surely win complete victory.

No matter how frenzied, brutal, obdurate and pertidious the U.S. imperialists may be, they will inevitably meet with bitter failure in their criminal schemes.

In the supreme interest of the Fatherland, let our entire people in South Viet Nam strengthen their solidarity, millions as one, and rush forward shoulder to shoulder in the impetus of our victories to completely defeat the U.S. aggressors and their stooge administration, and together with our northern compatriots to fulfil the great and glorious cause of liberating the South, defending the North and proceeding toward the peaceful reunification of the Fatherland.

The South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation pledges itself to be always worthy of the confidence of our compatriots and our friends in the five continents.

The Vietnamese people will surely be victorious!

The U.S. aggressors and their henchmen will certainly be defeated!

The Programme of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation is sure to materialize!

Fighters and compatriots throughout South Viet Nam, under the glorious banner of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, march forward heroically!

Mr. NGUYEN VAN TIEN's
PRESS CONFERENCE

AT 7 p.m. on September 1, 1967, in Hanoi, Mr. Nguyen Van Tien, head of the Permanent Representation of the South Viet Nam N.F.L. in the D.R.V.N., held a press conference to make public the communiqué of the Extraordinary Congress of the South Viet Nam N.F.L. and the Political Programme adopted at this Congress.

Briefing the audience about the new Political Programme, he said :

"It affirms that the enemies of the South Vietnamese people are : *the U.S. imperialist aggressors and the traitorous puppet administration in Saigon.* It lays down the task and objectives of the South Vietnamese people in their struggle for national salvation : *to unite the entire people, resolutely defeat the U.S. imperialists' war of aggression, overthrow their lackey puppet administration, establish a broad national democratic coalition administration, build an independent, democratic, peaceful, neutral and prosperous South Viet Nam and proceed towards the peaceful reunification of the Fatherland.* It asserts that the force that guarantees victory over the U.S. imperialist aggressors is great national union."

Mr. Tien directed the attention of the audience to the following points :

Compared with the 10-point programme proclaimed following the founding of the South Viet Nam N.F.L. in 1960, the Political Programme, in the strategic point of view, differs in no way from its assessment of the enemy and the tasks of the Revolution.

However, as a result of new developments, he continued, because of the massive invasion by the U.S. Expeditionary and satellite troops which ferociously hit the South Vietnamese people and because of Washington's war of destruction against the D.R.V.N., the overwhelming majority of the South Vietnamese people bears great hatred for the aggressors and the traitors. Contradictions between the Vietnamese people and the U. S. imperialists grow sharper. Therefore, more and more people have asked to join the N.F.L. to fight in common, or have supported or joined action with the N. F. L. to resist U. S. aggression. One of the pressing needs is to broaden the bloc of national union in order to win final victory.

For this reason the new Political Programme of the N.F.L. comes into being. It is a programme for great national union, a programme which manifests the unshakable determination to fight and defeat the U.S. aggressors. What is worth noticing is that this programme has laid down the groundwork for the building of a prosperous South Viet Nam after the defeat of the aggressor troops. This is an entirely new point.

NEXT, Mr Tien answered questions put by pressmen.

In the light of the 10-point Programme, the N.F.L. has achieved many successes. Asked what the most fundamental success is, he answered: "Under the leadership of the N.F.L., in line with the 10-point programme, the South Vietnamese people have frustrated U.S. neo-colonialism and reduced Washington's special war to failure. Later on, when the local war was unleashed, the N.F.L. led the people to defeat it in its initial stage.

"Yet, the most fundamental and important success and the source of all successes lie in the fact that the bloc of great national union has continually broadened and is steadily strengthened. Faced with the aggressors who are ruthlessly massacring the people, all social strata, including those who are serving in the puppet army and puppet administration and who, not long ago, still harboured some illusion about the U.S., are now turning towards the Front, conscious that its 10-point programme and its various policies are the correct way to save the country.

"The Front has rallied under its banner broad sections of the population and at the same time taken joint action with many persons under the common battle-cry of fighting U.S. aggression for national salvation, or having vast possibilities to do that."

To give the audience an insight into this situation, Mr Tien cited many cases showing the various forms of struggles, legal and illegal, adopted by the urban people, including even military activities in the very heart of the enemy's rear bases.

The head of the N.F.L. mission in Hanoi went on :

"This bloc of great national union also implies the close unity between the people of the South and the North in the fight against the common enemy. South and North have fought in close co-ordination under the following motto :

"The North calls, the South responds,

"The South calls, the North dashes forward.

"This is the fundamental success of the South Vietnamese people.

"This is the fundamental failure of the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys."

Answering the question as to the attitude of various strata of the urban people towards the U.S. and the N.F.L., Mr Tien said :

"The presence of the U.S. expeditionary troops, the strict handling of the war by Washington and the U.S. command in Saigon along with the inflation and the U.S. economic infiltration and "aid", have aroused discontent among many persons, including members of the puppet army and puppet administration. Even upper-class persons have come to realise the loss of sovereignty. The Americans control everything and turn them into their stooges. In Saigon, people are talking about the three losses caused by the Yankees : loss of authority, loss of wife and loss of life. More or less, they have undertaken hostile actions. A case in point is the monthly desertion rate in the puppet army which is as high as 12,000. As said above, many people have turned towards the N.F.L. They want to fight jointly with the Front, in this form or that, against the common enemy.

"This Political Programme has been worked out to meet such circumstances. It creates conditions for those people to realise their desire to join the N.F.L. or to take joint action with it."

As to the N.F.L.'s programme concerning the reunification of the country, Mr. Tien explained as follows :

"Since its founding, Viet Nam has been one and the Vietnamese people are one.

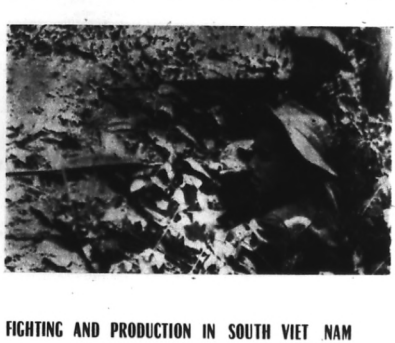
"Since 1954, our country has been temporarily divided into two zones. The U.S. and its lackeys have sought to partition our country permanently. That is why national reunification is the earnest aspiration of the people of both South and North Viet Nam. This aspiration has been expressed in this Political Programme. The reunification will proceed in two steps. In the first step, after the U.S. aggression is defeated, normal relations will be re-established between the two zones, and there will be freedom of movement and economic and cultural exchanges between them. On this basis, discussions and negotiations will be held between the two zones on the practical measures to reunify the country and abolish the temporary demarcation line, in accordance with the aspiration of the people of both zones."

"ANYTHING concocted in Saigon is merely a U.S. farce, designed to prettify its placemen so as to secure a prop. This is completely null and void. We need not care a bit about that." So said Mr. Tien to explain his view regarding the questions raised around the attitude of the N.F.L. towards the Saigon puppet administration.

Asked whether the N.F.L. has put forward this Political Programme as a counter-measure to the faked election being held in Saigon, Mr. Tien said :

"As stated above, the new Political Programme has been worked out to meet the current developments. Since the beginning of this year, work has been done to map out a political programme to be adopted at an extraordinary congress. In August, this Congress was held, at which Huynh Tan Phat submitted the draft programme, and it was adopted.

"Recently, puppet Chief of State Nguyen Van Thieu hinted that he hoped to meet the N.F.L. This was designed to enhance his own prestige in the election and done at U.S. bidding. The N.F.L. holds that Thieu and his ilk are a band of traitors to the nation and servants of Washington ; nobody recognizes them and therefore contact with them is out of question".



FIGHTING AND PRODUCTION IN SOUTH VIET NAM LIBERATED AREAS

— Drying of paddy.
— Father and son fighting in the same trench (Cu Chi battle).

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